GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:7
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
NEW IRRIGATION SCHEMES
RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give a new thrust to the implementation of new irrigation schemes for small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated during each of the last two years for implementation of said schemes; and

(d) the names of the districts where the schemes have been implemented, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.7 to be answered on 23.7.2001 regarding "New Irrigation Schemes"

There are schemes under implementation aimed at giving thrust on minor irrigation and benefiting small and marginal farmers. The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) launched on1.4.1999, among other things, provides for taking up minor irrigation schemes for the benefit of below poverty line farmers. Subsidy is limited to 30% in the case of individual farmers subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500/-, 50% in the case of SC/STbeneficiaries subject to a maximum of Rs. 10000/-, and 50% for group projects without any monetary ceiling. In the last two years i.e. 1999- 2000 and 2000-2001 subsidy to the extent of Rs.806.25 lakh and Rs.1230.05 lakh respectively has been provided under the programme. The schemes are taken up project-wise and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana is implemented throughout the country.

The ongoing centrally sponsored command area development programme also provides for taking up ground water development and sprinkler and drip irrigation installation in the designated irrigation commands in the country benefiting small and marginal farmers. Subsidy on matching basis is provided to the states under the scheme as per the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP) pattern.During the last two years i.e. 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 subsidy to the extent of Rs.304.89 lakh and Rs.330.63 lakh respectively has been released under the programme.

Under the centrally sponsored scheme on Development of Horticulture through Plasticulture Interventions central assistance is provided for micro irrigation systems to small and marginal farmers also. The funds released under this scheme during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, are Rs.9510 lakh and Rs.1820 lakh respectively.

Besides this, the expenditure in the State sector under the head of minor irrigation, which primarily provides benefits to small and marginal farmers, has been steeply increasing over the past few years.